



Easing Down the Road, Trail or Path

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Riding a bicycle is an act of total freedom for me. It lets me get out of my head when I need to. It helps me get back into my head when I need to. My bicycles each have amazing two wheeled souls that keep me anchored to the world.

My mountain bike is a spunky buckskinned pony that tugs at the reins and shakes its head in frustration as I keep my speed under control around a blind corner; it has been known to buck me off, especially when I start thinking I'm pretty dang good on a tricky single track.

My town bike is a jokester, dressed in streamers, stickers and a seat with fringe. It keeps me from getting too serious about my work.

My road bike was born from the love of the dirt, and occasionally it will drag me over Annadel to remind me how riding off-road used to be before shocks.

But it is important to remember as we whoosh down a trail whether it is down Lawndale or the Joe Rodota trail, we are sharing these wonderful places with many other users. And as a bike rider you know the scary feeling of a car whooshing by too close, leaving you wondering if they even saw you. It is a frightening experience that can often leave you feeling angry. This is the same feeling pedestrians and other trail users have when a bicyclist goes whooshing by.

Please remember as you enjoy your bicycle, that we can be like the cars on the road to pedestrians on trails and paths. We may not feel like we are going fast or out of control, but it can be a pretty scary experience for other trail users. We need to remember the lasting impression we leave and slow down, or even come to a complete stop if necessary, and say "hi" it's not just about "sharing the road" it's about sharing all public space.